

Application No. 09/832,509
Amendment dated June 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of February 19, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Claims 1-14 canceled.

Claim 15 (new): A method of constructing a new cash drawer using, at least in part, a coin inventory of at least two different coin denominations, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving and storing an input regarding an initial number of each of the different coin denominations in the coin inventory;
- (b) prompting a user to place the new cash drawer on a scale;
- (c) prompting the user to remove coins of a particular coin denomination from the coin inventory and deposit the coins into the new cash drawer;
- (d) determining automatically, based on a weight of the coins deposited into the new cash drawer, a total number of the coins of the particular denomination deposited into the new cash drawer;
- (e) updating automatically the stored initial number of coins in the coin inventory in light of the coins removed therefrom in step (c);
- (f) determining automatically, based on a pre-established target number of coins of the particular denomination, any deficiency in the total number of the coins of the particular denomination in the new cash drawer;
- (g) correcting the deficiency determined in step (f) by repeating steps (c) through (f); and
- (h) repeating steps (c) through (g) for each of the different coin denominations.

Claim 16 (new): The method as set forth in claim 15, wherein step (g) is performed only if the deficiency exceeds a pre-established threshold value.

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Claim 17 (new): A method of constructing a new cash drawer having a plurality of cups using a used coin container having a plurality of corresponding coin holders and a coin inventory having a known number of coins, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) prompting a user to place the new cash drawer on a scale;
- (b) prompting the user to remove a particular corresponding coin holder from the used coin container and deposit a content of the particular corresponding coin holder into a particular cup of the new cash drawer, wherein the content of the particular corresponding coin holder includes a plurality of coins of a particular denomination;
- (c) determining automatically, based on a weight of the content deposited into the particular cup of the new cash drawer, a total number of the coins of the particular denomination deposited into the new cash drawer;
- (d) determining any deficiency in the total number of coins of the particular denomination based on a pre-established target number of coins of the particular denomination;
- (e) prompting the user to correct the deficiency using coins taken from the coin inventory;
- (f) updating automatically the known number of coins in the coin inventory in light of the coins taken therefrom in step (e); and
- (g) repeating steps (b) through (f) for each of the plurality of cups of the new cash drawer.

Claim 18 (new): The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein step (e) is performed only if the deficiency exceeds a pre-established threshold value.

Claim 19 (new): The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein the used coin container is a used cash drawer.

Claim 20 (new): The method as set forth in claim 17, wherein the used coin container is a used coin canister.

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Claim 21 (new): The method as set forth in claim 17, further including the step of warning the user that a coin of a different denomination is present in the cup when, in step (c), the determined total number of the coins of the particular denomination is not an integer number.

Claim 22 (new): A method of constructing a new cash drawer having a plurality of cups using a used cash drawer having a plurality of corresponding cups and a coin inventory having a known number of coins, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) allowing a user to select a type of cash drawer to which the new cash drawer to be constructed belongs;
- (b) accessing, based on the selected type of cash drawer, details concerning an initial amount of revenue that should be provided in the new cash drawer;
- (c) prompting the user to place the new cash drawer on a scale;
- (d) prompting the user to remove a particular corresponding cup from the used cash drawer and deposit a content of the particular corresponding cup into a particular cup of the new cash drawer, wherein the content of the particular corresponding cup includes a plurality of coins of a particular denomination;
- (e) determining automatically, based on a weight of the content deposited into the particular cup of the new cash drawer, a total number of the coins of the particular denomination deposited into the new cash drawer;
- (f) repeating steps (d) and (e) for each of the plurality of cups of the new cash drawer;
- (g) determining any deficiency in a total revenue deposited into the new cash drawer based on the type of cash drawer selected in step (a);
- (h) prompting the user to correct the deficiency using coins taken from the coin inventory; and
- (i) updating automatically the known number of coins in the coin inventory in light of any coins taken therefrom in step (h).

Claim 23 (new): The method as set forth in claim 22, wherein step (h) is performed only if the deficiency exceeds a pre-established threshold value.

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Claim 24 (new): The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein the pre-established threshold value is \$0.99, such that if the deficiency is less than or equal to \$0.99, then step (h) is skipped.

Claim 25 (new): The method as set forth in claim 22, wherein step (h) includes the steps of -

prompting the user to add one quarter if the deficiency is between \$0.01 and \$0.25;
prompting the user to add two quarters if the deficiency is between \$0.26 and
\$0.50; and

prompting the user to add three quarters if the deficiency is between \$0.51 and
\$0.75.

Claim 26 (new): The method as set forth in claim 22, further including the step of warning the user that a coin of a different denomination is present in the cup when, in step (e), the determined total number of the coins of the particular denomination is not an integer number.

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Claim 27 (new): A method of constructing a new cash drawer having a plurality of cups using a used cash drawer having a plurality of corresponding cups and a coin inventory having a known number of coins, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving a user identification;
- (b) accessing, based on the user identification, a transaction record reflecting any transactions conducted using the used cash drawer;
- (c) determining, based on the transaction record, a final amount of revenue that should be present in the used cash drawer;
- (d) allowing a user to select a type of cash drawer to which the new cash drawer to be constructed belongs;
- (e) accessing, based on the selected type of cash drawer, details concerning an initial amount of revenue that should be provided in the new cash drawer;
- (f) prompting a user to place the new cash drawer on a scale;
- (g) prompting the user to remove a particular corresponding cup from the used cash drawer and deposit a content of the particular corresponding cup into a particular cup of the new cash drawer, wherein the content of the particular corresponding cup includes a plurality of coins of a particular denomination;
- (h) determining, based on a weight of the content deposited into the particular cup of the new cash drawer, a total number of the coins of the particular denomination deposited into the new cash drawer;
- (i) repeating steps (g) and (h) for each of the plurality of cups;
- (j) displaying, from the transaction record, a list of checks that should be present in the used cash drawer, and prompting the user to compare any checks actually present in the used cash drawer with the list of checks that should be present;
- (k) displaying, from the transaction record, a list of card receipts that should be present in the used cash drawer, and prompting the user to compare any card receipts actually present in the used cash drawer with the list of card receipts that should be present;
- (l) determining, from steps (g) through (k), a total amount of revenue actually present in the used cash drawer, and comparing the total amount of

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revenue actually present in the used cash drawer with the final amount of revenue that should be present in the used cash drawer as determined in step (c);

- (m) determining any deficiency in the new cash drawer based on the initial amount of revenue that should be provided with the type of cash drawer selected in step (d);
- (n) prompting the user to correct the deficiency using coins taken from the coin inventory; and
- (o) updating the known number of coins in the coin inventory in light of any coins taken therefrom in step (n).

Claim 28 (new): The method as set forth in claim 27, wherein the transaction record is provided by a computerized point-of-sale system.

Claim 29 (new): The method as set forth in claim 27, wherein step (n) is performed only if the deficiency exceeds a pre-established threshold value.

Claim 30 (new): The method as set forth in claim 29, wherein the pre-established threshold value is \$0.99, such that if the deficiency is less than or equal to \$0.99, then step (n) is skipped.

Claim 31 (new): The method as set forth in claim 27, wherein step(n) includes the steps of -

prompting the user to add one quarter if the deficiency is between \$0.01 and \$0.25;
prompting the user to add two quarters if the deficiency is between \$0.26 and \$0.50; and
prompting the user to add three quarters if the deficiency is between \$0.51 and \$0.75.

Claim 32 (new): The method as set forth in claim 27, further including the step of warning the user that a coin of a different denomination is present in the cup when, in step (h), the determined total number is not an integer number.

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Claim 33 (new): The method as set forth in claim 27, further including the steps of - determining, based on a weight of the checks actually present, a number of the checks actually present and comparing the determined number of checks actually present with a number of checks that should be present as reflected by the list of checks that should be present; and determining, based on a weight of the card receipts actually present, a number of the card receipts actually present and comparing the determined number of card receipts actually present with a number of card receipts that should be present as reflected by the list of card receipts that should be present.